SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release - December 8, 2015

SALEM POLICE MAKE ARREST IN ASSAULT CASE

Early this morning at approximately 4:15 a.m., the Salem Police Department responded to the 2000 block of E. Main Street in reference to a reported assault. Upon arrival, the officers discovered a female victim who had apparent injuries to her face and neck.

The woman told police that late on Monday night, December 7, she was at a residence on Clay Street when a male suspect assaulted her, struck her several times in the face and then strangled her until she was rendered unconscious.

The female advised that when she regained consciousness, she attempted to leave the residence, but was physically restrained from leaving by the same male. A short time later, the female was able to exit the residence, return home and contact police. The victim was transported by rescue personnel to LewisGale Medical Center for further evaluation and treatment for non-life threatening injuries.

After subsequent investigation, 46-year-old Artis Johnson of Salem was arrested and charged with Assault and Battery, Strangulation and Abduction. Johnson is currently being held in the Roanoke County/Salem Jail without bond.

Police have determined that the suspect was an acquaintance of the victim.

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